

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

WELL-BEING | BIODIVERSITY | PRIORITIES | ACTIVITIES | ACHIEVEMENTS



**Cyngor Gwledig LLANELLI Rural Council**

# LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

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# LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

## INTRODUCTION

The council has a statutory duty to prepare and publish two public annual reports and also a biodiversity action plan report once every three years to satisfy the following legislative requirements:

Section 40 of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires the council to publish a report annually on the progress made in meeting the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board's local well-being objectives. The report must be published as soon as reasonably practicable following the end of the financial year (31 March) to which the report relates.

Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 requires the council to prepare and publish a plan report once every three years setting out what it proposes to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote resilience. The council's next plan report must be published no later than 31 December 2025.

Section 52 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires the council, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year (31 March), to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements over the previous year.

There are a number of over-lapping elements associated with the production of these reports. For reasons of practicality and to avoid duplication the council has decided to prepare a single composite annual report to satisfy its legislative reporting duties. The council is permitted to do this in preference to producing three individual reports.

The composite annual report structure has been designed to reflect the chronological order of the enactment of the legislative reporting requirements based on when the reporting duties were first introduced to the local council sector and comprises three parts:

- PART 1 – The council's contribution to supporting the local well-being objectives for the area (the Section 40 reporting duty (Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015));
- PART 2 – The council's contribution to supporting and promoting local biodiversity (the Section 6 reporting duty (Environment (Wales) Act 2016)); and
- PART 3 – A review of the council's key tasks and activities performed over the previous year (the Section 52 reporting duty (Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021)).

# LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the ordinary local government elections in May 2022, eleven new councillors were elected to serve on the council together with ten re-elected councillors. All seven of the council's electoral wards were contested with a total of 53 candidates contesting 21 seats. Since the formation of the new council, there have been two casual vacancies on the council. Cllr B. M. Williams (Hengoed Ward) resigned and subsequently Cllr J. Lovell was elected on 20 February 2025. Cllr N. A. Stephens (Dafen Ward) sadly passed away and subsequently Cllr K. Morgan was elected on 28 March 2025. The council has continued at pace with its capital programme of works to provide new community facilities throughout its administrative area. In the last year the council has provided four new children's play areas and begun building works transforming a former branch library into a new community hub for the Pemberton Ward. The council continues to conduct its formal business and decision-making arrangements by facilitating multi-location council and committee meetings using Microsoft Teams software to accommodate councillors, the press and public participating remotely if they so wish. Llanelli District Cemetery, council parks, playgrounds and community halls continue to flourish and so does the floodlit AstroTurf pitch in Dafen Park. The adoption of Lower Lliedi Reservoir in Swiss Valley is progressing well under the council's stewardship. In 2024/25 phased fish stocking continued, which will both improve the angling offer whilst also improve the health of the water ecosystem at the reservoir. The upgraded reservoir features and amenities have been well received, with the facility attracting in excess of 114,000 visitors this year. This is 15,000 more visitors than the previous year.

The training department has built on the success of the Jobs Growth Wales Plus programme by continuing the work with ITEC Training, Learners achieving 58% progression to higher learning and employment. An increase in contract delivery has been achieved for the second year in a row and completed the first full year working with Coleg Sir Gar as a delivery partner. In apprenticeships the Training Department continues to deliver programmes in Logistics and Business, recording good performance results at Foundation and advanced levels. The logistics team remains very busy delivering not only apprenticeships but various courses through Personal Learning Accounts attracting additional funding for new courses to train LGV and PCV drivers with licence acquisition. LRC Training was recognised at the Skills Academy Wales Apprenticeships Awards. A logistics apprentice received Foundation Apprentice of the Year 2024, an employer was awarded Employer of the Year 2024 for their commitment to recruiting and supporting Logistics Apprentices through to achievement. There was a Special Recognition Award for Partnership Working with ACO Training for supporting Welsh language and bilingual delivery. LRC Training successfully delivered a project to train Tata Steel employees at risk of redundancy through Personal Learning Accounts (PLA) funding with NPTC Group of Colleges to gain LGV or PCV licence.

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

PRESS RELEASE DATED 14 FEBRUARY 2025

## **Time Capsule Project : 50 years of Llanelli Rural Council**

Llanelli Rural Council this year celebrates 50 years of service to its communities and to commemorate this, it has embarked on a special project with primary schools situated in the Llanelli Rural area. Its wish was to commemorate the past and present for the future. In doing so, each school has been provided with a Time Capsule and the opportunity to contribute meaningful items, letters and photos that represent the schools and their pupils to reflect on the past, show who we are today and what we hope for the future.

12 schools have taken part in the exercise, each providing a variety of items such as school schedules, pupil profiles, toy catalogues, local newspaper clippings, local history and much more. The capsules will be buried at eight locations across the Llanelli Rural area. This is scheduled for next month. Recently, the Council's Chairman and Leader dropped by to view the submissions.

Chairman to the Council, Cllr Martin Davies said "I'd like to thank the schools for their cooperation and the pupils for engaging in the time capsule project. It has been a privilege for myself and the Leader to view the submissions today. Such a worthwhile project and one that future generations will enjoy when they get to open the capsules in 50 years' time".

Council Leader, Cllr Sue Lewis added "We wanted to mark the 50 years of the council by capturing this moment in time for future generations. Working with the local schools ensured many pupils could get involved. It was a pleasure to see what has been submitted and I'm sure it will be thrilling to those that open the time capsules in the future".





# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Bynea Primary School



Ysgol Bryn Teg



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Dafen Primary School



Halfway Primary School



St Mary's Primary School



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Ysgol Ffwrnes



Pwll Primary School



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Ysgol Y Felin



Swiss Valley Primary School



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Ysgol Pum Heol



Ysgol Pontiets

# LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

## HEADLINE ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the last 12 months the council has achieved:

- Fish stocking programme enacted at Lower Lliedi Reservoir, Swiss Valley. Native predatory species introduced in an initiative to combat invasive fish species in partnership with Welsh Water and Natural Resources Wales. Initial signs show this has been a success!
- To mark 50 years of Llanelli Rural Council, the council engaged with 12 local primary schools to inter eleven time capsules across the Llanelli Rural area.
- License for land and water based activities at Lower Lliedi Reservoir, Swiss Valley to an outward bound activity provider thus enabling angling and paddle sports opportunities to take place as well as other outdoor land activities. In addition, this year the activity provider has provided rowing boat and outdoor sauna experiences whilst also establishing a café on site.
- Second year of the Dwyfor Growing Space was a success with the majority of raised bed occupiers renewing for year 3.
- Successful delivery of a Shared Prosperity Fund grant via Carmarthenshire County Council and UK Government Levelling Up programme for a new play area and environmental enhancement at Gwili Fields, Llwynhendy.
- Successful delivery of Welsh Government's Assets Collaboration (Wales) Programme grant for phase I of the Canolfan Llwynhendy building.
- Delivery of four new children's play areas at Clos Cilsaig, Gwili Fields Llwynhendy, Penygraig and Ponthenri.
- Coordination of a Litter Pick Hub that has allowed 16 litter picks carried out by 188 volunteers.
- Reduced its grass cutting operations in test areas to allow for better pollinators for local biodiversity.
- Highly commended in the category of Special Recognition for Partnership Working at the Skills Academy Wales Apprenticeship Awards ceremony.
- Increase in Job Growth Wales+ and Personal Learning Accounts Contracts including a Tata Steel Project.





## New children's play areas at:

- Top Left: Parc Y Gwili - Pemberton Ward
- Middle Top: Clos Cilsaig - Dafen Ward,
- Middle Bottom: Penygraig - Bynea Ward
- Right: Ponthenri Park – Glyn Ward.







Apprenticeships event at  
Royal Mail Swansea –  
employees ‘having a go’ on  
our transport simulator



JGW+ learner meeting  
local author for advice on a  
career as a literary agent



LRC Training Apprentice  
recognised at the Skills  
Academy Wales Awards

## **Annual Report – Part 1**

### **Report for Carmarthenshire Public Services Board - Llanelli Rural Council Annual Report - 2024-25**

#### **Outline of Council**

One of nine community councils in the Llanelli district area, the council, formed during Local Government re-organisation in April 1974, is made up of 21 elected members, advised by the Clerk to the Council.

The council's geographic area is approximately 26.78 square miles, with a population of 22,018 and surrounds the urban centre of Llanelli. Its boundaries extend from Loughor Estuary in the east to Burry Port in the west and skirts the Gwendraeth Valley in the north. The area is made up of the villages and districts of Bynea, Cwmbach, Cynheidre, Dafen, Felinfoel, Five Roads, Furnace, Llwynhendy, Ponthenri, Pontyates (south of the railway line), Pwll, Sandy and Swiss Valley.

Chairman: Councillor Martin Davies

Leader of the Council: Councillor Susan Lewis

Clerk to the Council: Mark Galbraith ACIS

The Council's 21 elected members represent seven wards and it meets on the second Tuesday at 6.00 pm each month except for August.

Councillors by ward are:

Bynea: Cllrs D M Cundy, T M Donoghue and S M T Ford.

Dafen: Cllrs R E Evans, S N Lewis, K Morgan and A J Rogers.

Felinfoel: Cllrs E M Evans and N Evans.

Glyn: Cllrs A Evans and O Williams.

Hengoed: Cllrs M V Davies, J Lovell, J S Phillips and W E Skinner.

Pemberton: Cllrs S L Davies, J P Hart, S K Nurse and A G Stephens.

Swiss Valley: Cllrs S R Bowen and A G Morgan.



The council's precept for 2024/2025 was £1,174,180 equivalent to £137.30 per band D property. Since the council's inception, it has built and maintained nine community halls, sports changing rooms and a community resource centre incorporating community and changing facilities. In November 2020, the council signed a five-year community adoption agreement with Welsh Water to provide upgrades and routine maintenance for the Lower Lledi Reservoir at Swiss Valley. The agreement is the first of its kind in Wales. The council also maintains seven parks where rugby, football, bowls and cricket are regularly played and has provided and maintains 18 children's play areas. It grant aids voluntary and charitable organisations. Through its Training Department the council provides work based learning training and job opportunities.

The council manages and maintains Llanelli District Cemetery which is jointly owned with Llanelli Town Council. The council also provides a grounds maintenance service to the town council to maintain its parks and open spaces under a service level agreement.

### **What is the Council's Vision/Objectives?**

The council is committed to working for and with the local community to help improve general well-being while acting as a local voice to safeguard key services.

The council has the following ambitions:

- To be recognised as an excellent organisation;
- To be an organisation that people are proud to work for and be associated with.

The council aims to be:

- Caring and supportive;
- Fair and equitable;
- Inclusive;
- Developmental and Innovative;
- Empowering, Enthusiastic and Encouraging.

The council's general vision is outlined in its Strategic Plan but following the enactment of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFGAct) it elected to employ a full time Community Development Officer (CDO) and commissioned a 15 year plan that focuses on well-being called the Llanelli Rural Area Whole Place Plan – 2015 to 2030. This plan details the background, approach and methods of delivering well-being for its area. Both its Strategic Plan and Well Being Plan integrate the seven National Wellbeing Goals and five ways of working brought about by the Act.

## OUR SPENDING PRIORITIES FOR 2025/26

### How is the Council funded?

The council is funded entirely from the council taxpayer and other sources of income collected from charges etc.

### Where does your money go?

The council has agreed a budget of £2,431,834 to spend on the provision of services in 2025/26. For the council tax payer, the Band D tax levied will be £181.69 per dwelling which represents a 32.3% increase on 2024/25.

The Council has budgeted to spend on:

2024/25		2025/26
£		£
542,037	Halls	823,896
539,691	Parks/open spaces	644,659
88,382	Roads and footpaths	100,606
100,000	Cemetery	100,000
132,290	Arts and tourism	156,103
117,704	Community development	121,740
6,274	Training	8,040
25,000	Grants	23,250
527,531	Play areas	284,310
59,336	Asset Transfer	73,503
<u>82,908</u>	Other services	<u>95,727</u>
<u>2,221,153</u>		<u>2,431,834</u>

To be financed by:

	£
Council Tax payers	1,568,545
Charges, grants etc	757,456
Reserves	105,833

### Financial Reserves

Balances are necessary to provide for the levelling out of normal peaks and troughs of a year's financial activities. It is estimated that these working balances will stand at around £499,931 on 31 March, 2025.

### Continuing Services

- the maintenance of its community halls, parks, play areas, footpaths and open spaces
- the maintenance of Llanelli District Cemetery in partnership with Llanelli Town Council
- providing a grounds maintenance service to Llanelli Town Council
- funding of the Christmas Carnival and Lights switch on with Carmarthenshire County Council and Llanelli Town Council
- projects under the Whole Place Plan
- to deliver Work Based Learning Programmes: Jobs Growth Wales+ and Apprenticeships
- provide litter picking equipment for hire to groups, schools, businesses and individuals
- provide varied community volunteering opportunities to its residents
- the operation of Dwyfor Growing space

### Our Plans

Specific projects this year are:-

- to continue the development of new facilities at Swiss Valley Reservoir
- to establish the "friends of Swiss Valley Reservoir" volunteer led group
- to continue with the lease transfer of assets from Carmarthenshire County Council
- to negotiate Section 106 funding for play and recreational facilities
- to complete the drainage and landscaping works to the recreational area at Gwili Fields
- to continue the development of the Canolfan Llwynhendy and open it to the public
- to provide public toilets for match day use at Felinfoel Recreation Ground

## Progress against the Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objectives

### Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objective 1: Ensuring a sustainable economy and fair employment

Steps taken by Llanelli Rural Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective	How have the 5 Ways of Working been used to shape your activity? (Summary in Appendix A)	Which national Well-being Goals does this work support? (Summary in Appendix B)
Learner Wellbeing	The wellbeing of learners is a priority within Work Based Learning Provision (WBL). Estyn inspections and self-evaluations of training provision will focus on the 'Wellbeing and Safeguarding' of learners along with the 'Care, Support and Guidance' offered to them. This is alongside their progress in learning. In Skills Academy Wales the Training Department is represented on the Health, Safety and Wellbeing group which oversees the support given to apprentices in programme. In JGW+ provision wellbeing and safeguarding issues are reported and monitored through the 'My Concern' platform provided by ITEC Skills or 'Be Safe' provided by Coleg Sir Gar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> </ul>
Work based learning provision for 16-19 year olds	LRC Training's Job's Growth Wales + programme is available on a roll-on, roll-off basis, ensuring that young people who often face many difficult barriers to learning can access provision when they need to. Inductions are held at least monthly and often more frequently, each learner will have an Individual Learning Plan drawn up which will include targets which are SMART and achievable. Progress against these targets are reviewed monthly. Learners will access training opportunities which are appropriate and timely for them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• More equal Wales</li> </ul>
Apprenticeship opportunities and Personal Learning Accounts (PLA)	Apprenticeship opportunities are available at any time. LRC Training will work with employers who have apprenticeship vacancies to help them fill vacancies. The availability of apprenticeship places is promoted to employers in the relevant sectors, particularly in logistics where employers are currently experiencing a shortage in operatives and LGV Drivers. Learning follows pre agreed apprenticeship frameworks but there is flexibility in the method of delivery, a mix of on and off the job training and an opportunity to complete the framework over a longer or shorter time span. PLA funding has been directed at priority sectors such as logistics and passenger transport. The training department is using this funding to deliver training to those not already employed in the sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• More equal Wales</li> </ul>
Networking in Training and Education	LRC Training is recognised as a quality Work Based Learning provider in Wales. Membership of Neath Port Talbot College Group and Skills Academy Wales allows the department to participate and contribute to all consultations, training and guidance relevant to WBL provision. LRC Training is also involved in sector specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> </ul>



	<p>networks, notably with the National Logistics Academy which offers apprenticeship opportunities across the UK.</p> <p>LRC Training is now working with ITEC Skills Ltd and Coleg Sir Gar to deliver the Jobs Growth Wales + programme in Carmarthenshire.</p> <p>Locally, officers network well with referral agencies such as Careers Wales, The Youth Service and JobCentre Plus. There are good communications with other local providers and support agencies such as Choices and Iechyd Da who are involved with young learners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>
Opportunities for Learning	<p>LRC Training has developed unique training provision.</p> <p>The Jobs Growth Wales + programme exhibits a high level of learner support and pastoral care with dedicated provision for additional learning needs and skills development.</p> <p>LRC Training is unique in its provision of apprenticeship opportunities in Logistics and Transport throughout Wales, offering Driving Goods Vehicles, Warehousing and Storage, Logistics Operations, Passenger Carrying Vehicle, Supply Chain Management and apprenticeships in Customer Service and Business Administration, one of very few providers in Wales offering Level 4 apprenticeships in Business Administration.</p> <p>LRC Training is working with Neath Port Talbot College (NPTC) Group to deliver training in Logistics and Road Passenger Transport licences through Personal Learning Accounts across South Wales.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosperous Wales</li> <li>More equal Wales</li> <li>Resilient Wales</li> </ul>
Investors in People Accreditation	<p>The council is putting people first as an investors in people organisation, which is a standard wherein the employer engages with employees to discuss welfare, wellbeing training and employment needs. It maintains open dialogue and evaluates the council's values whilst seeking to improve the leadership and management capability of the organisation. Accreditation achieved in 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosperous Wales</li> <li>Healthier Wales</li> <li>More equal Wales</li> </ul>

## Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objective 2: Improving well-being and reducing health inequalities

Steps taken by Llanelli Rural Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective	How have the 5 Ways of Working been used to shape your activity? (Summary in Appendix A)	Which national Well-being Goals does this work support? (Summary in Appendix B)
Community adoption plan with Welsh Water for Lower Lliedi Reservoir, Swiss Valley	<p>The community adoption plan was agreed in November 2020, and is the first of its kind in Wales. Its purpose is designed to open up the Lower Lliedi Reservoir local beauty spot to members of the public. The intention is to enable recreation, public access for all and create a high quality visitor experience that balances recreation with conservation and biodiversity. The agreement allows regulated water access for paddle sports and anglers. The space will be promoted as a place where schools and other outdoor education providers can visit. Volunteering opportunities have been created since the adoption. The toilet block has been restored and the car parks have been reopened. The eastern footpath has been resurfaced whilst improvements have also been made where necessary on parts of the western footpath. The adoption has prompted the council to establish a volunteer led angling club. The agreement also allows for opportunities for angling and canoe competitions and mobile traders at the site. This in turn will have a positive effect on the local economy and tourism industry. The council installed visitor counters at entrance points at the site and between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 they recorded 114,425 visitors to the reservoir.</p> <p>The council has improved the visitor experience by way of a woodland management plan and installation of signage, seating/picnic areas, accessibility, footpath repair and improvements to existing woodland trails. Habitat boxes have been installed to help monitor and aid biodiversity in the woodland.</p> <p>The council continues to work with a number of public sector partners to deliver its site management plan. Staff are assigned with site monitoring which ensures the area is maintained for the purposes it is intended for. Based on the recommendations of stakeholders, an appropriate fish stocking programme is now underway. Working relationships for the ongoing use of the reservoir have been established with Carmarthenshire County Council leisure, biodiversity, rights of way and outdoor education officers. Relationships have been established with local anglers, paddlers, volunteers and community groups to ensure the site is inclusive of their needs. This approach has embraced the five ways of working sustainably by collaborating with partners and involving user groups in the discussions. The ongoing dialogue with the different stakeholders and the public have helped frame the long term plans for the site by overcoming or flagging up any potential problems and putting well-being at the fore front of our plans for the reservoir.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>

	<p>LiveFree Adventures Ltd. (LFA) holds an operator licence to provide water sports and outward bound activities at the reservoir. There are now many land and water based activities on offer through LFA at the reservoir. You can book in advance or turn up and pay to book a self-launch permit or hire a stand up paddleboard (SUP), kayak or row boat. LFA expanded their offering this year with the launch of “Sauna Y Coed”, an outdoor sauna and cold plunge experience set in the woodland at the reservoir which has already built up a strong customer base.</p> <p>For anglers at the reservoir, the launch of a new online booking system powered by Club Mate this year worked well in managing numbers and collecting fees for angling opportunities at the site.</p>	
Maintaining the footpath network within the Council’s boundaries	The council has an agreement in place with Carmarthenshire County Council to maintain public rights of way within its area on an agency basis for the county council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
Provision of seven playing fields used for recreation and sports such as bowls, cricket, football and rugby teams from junior to adult age groups.	These facilities allow for sports teams to participate in leisure and recreation throughout the council’s administrative area. The council has a positive relationship with these groups and the council maintains facilities to a satisfactory level at no cost to the user. The council’s grounds maintenance team has good communication links with local clubs. This proactive approach helps to deal with issues at an early intervention therefore preventing problems while safeguarding long term needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
Provision of funding to voluntary groups and community hall committees	Local volunteer led organisations and charities are encouraged to approach the council for small donations that help them deliver on their aims and objectives. Organisations that are doing good things for the Llanelli Rural area and are looking for assistance with running costs, can approach the council for financial support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>
Phil Bennett OBE Community Resource Centre	This building has additional facilities compared to other council owned community halls. It is a two storey building with a depot for the council’s grounds maintenance team, office space and changing rooms for the sporting organisations that use Felinfoel Recreation Ground. The management committee is set up as a charity and company limited by guarantee which is supported by the council’s Community Development Officer. The office space has housed Carmarthenshire County Council staff in the past and now hosts Hywel Dda University Health Board Primary Care team. The community hall sits on the first floor and hosts a varied programme of classes and clubs for the community and is a popular venue for training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>



Provision of a community growing space in Llwynhendy	The council has acquired the former allotments at Dwyfor, Llwynhendy via a Community Asset Transfer from Carmarthenshire County Council. The funds received as part of the transfer and via a Welsh Government Allotment grant has enabled the council to transform the space into more manageable growing space. The previous issue of waterlogging has been alleviated, and the space is suitable once more to grow food. Raised beds are available to individuals, community groups, charities and local primary schools. At the rear of the growing space is a wild and biodiversity-rich area, which is a space that has potential for the development of an outdoors classroom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>
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### Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objective 3: Responding to the climate and nature emergencies

Steps taken by Llanelli Rural Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective	How have the 5 Ways of Working been used to shape your activity? (Summary in Appendix A)	Which national Well-being Goals does this work support? (Summary in Appendix B)
Working with Keep Wales Tidy in the provision of a Litter Pick Hub	The council's offices acts as a litter pick hub for Keep Wales Tidy. This enables individuals and groups to loan litter picking equipment free for one off clean ups. Measures are in place to financially support newly formed litter picking groups. The council is also represented at Pride In Your Patch and Llanelli Litter Taskforce. The litter pick hub opened in 2021. Between 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025, the litter picking kit was loaned out on 16 occasions and 221 bags of litter were collected by 188 volunteers at venues in and around Llanelli.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
Working group dealing with climate change and the promotion of biodiversity in place to further support the principle of sustainable development	<p>The working group undertook a review of the council's position in relation to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reduction of target from 2°C to 1.5°C global temperature rise.</p> <p>The aim of the review: To review the council's position in relation to IPCC and recommend how the Council can contribute towards this target in the short, medium and long term.</p> <p>The working group will consider the potential changes and impacts of global warming across the Council's administrative area. The review will involve gathering information from its own activities in providing local services and consult with other resources such as government advisory bodies, websites, partner organisations, agencies and individuals. Identify the key areas where the council can impact on the IPCC target whilst carrying out its service delivery functions (direct and indirect) and how the Council can also encourage residents to make an impact on:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing carbon emissions;</li> <li>• Use energy more efficiently;</li> <li>• Switch to low carbon fuels;</li> <li>• Prepare for climate change.</li> </ul> <p>The recommendations of the group are reported to the council's Policy and Resources Committee for consideration. Stemming from this an Environment and Climate change policy, strategy and action plan will be formulated and reported for further consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <p>The work identified by the working group helped convince the Council to acquire new IT equipment for the Council chamber providing for more sustainable practices associated with remote attendance at council and committee meetings.</p> <p>The printing of meeting papers for Council members has reduced by 9.6% in the last year. This is due to council members opting in to receive their meeting papers digitally instead of having paper copies delivered.</p> <p>Reduced energy consumption and improved energy efficiency across council buildings and assets by introducing smart controls and upgrading heating and lighting systems into low energy consumption models where possible.</p> <p>Reduced grass cutting practices to allow for the benefit of pollinators have been introduced. The biodiversity areas the council have identified has been increased. In Pwll we have doubled the area that has been left to grow naturally, thus increasing the potential for wildflower and pollinators. The council's grass collection machine arisings are collected from wild flower meadows, which prevents the build-up of dead vegetation, which can smother delicate plants. There is more exposed ground to allow seeds to grow. The soil fertility is reduced, therefore slowing down the growth of nutrient-loving coarse grasses that choke wild flowers.</p>	
Tree planting at Parc Y Gwili	<p>The fields at Heol Gwili has benefited from the planting of 105 sapling trees thanks to the Woodland Trust's Trees for Communities initiative. Working with the youth workers at Ty Enfys Family Centre and Carmarthenshire County Council, a community planting event with young people of the area took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. A mixture of the following species were planted: holly, hazel, crab apple, downy birch, hawthorn and goat willow. These were chosen for their ability to help dry up wet areas. The project forms part of the regeneration of the fields and former library building to turn the area into a community hub to boost the well-being of residents. The trees over time will help absorb rainfall at an area that suffers with waterlogging during spells of wet weather.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>

Friends of Swiss Valley Reservoir	Over the past few months, the council has created more volunteering opportunities at the reservoir. By doing so it has set up working links with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water, Keep Wales Tidy and Carmarthenshire County Council's Local Places for Nature officer. Litter Picks were arranged in February and March. A core group of volunteers are keen to establish Friends of Swiss Valley as a constituted group. Some of the tasks identified so far are site monitoring to support wildlife and habitat conservation and working party days to keep the reservoir tidy and safe. New notice boards and posters have been put up advertising the group at the reservoir which has generated a positive response. Those signed up for updates will receive regular emails advertising future volunteering opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
New children's play equipment at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penygraig, Bynea ward</li> <li>• Clos Cilsaig, Dafen ward</li> <li>• Ponthenri Park, Glyn ward</li> <li>• Heol Gwili, Pemberton ward</li> </ul>	<p>It has been a busy year for providing new play areas. Two of the four are new play areas. They are based in Pemberton Ward at Heol Gwili and in the Bynea Ward at Penygraig. Community Asset Transfers between the council and Carmarthenshire County Council were sought in order to provide recreational play spaces for its residents. Community consultation was carried out prior to the designs being made, and each space reflects the needs of its community. Grant funding from UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Invest Local Programme supported Heol Gwili whilst Section 106 funds assisted funds raised by the council to help realise the scheme at Penygraig.</p> <p>The play area in Glyn Ward at Ponthenri Park replaces a play area that had become tired and rarely used and complements recent wider investment at the park from Welsh Government Safer Routes and a grant from the Local Places for Nature programme sponsored by Welsh Government and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.</p> <p>The space in Dafen Ward, which is accessible via Dafen Pond and Clos Cilsaig, has not been used for a number of years due to the former equipment being removed on health and safety grounds. Once the Community Asset Transfer for this site was completed, the council went about to install a modest play area suitable for younger children, which has been warmly received by local residents and families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>
Fish stocking at Swiss Valley Reservoir to help control the spread of Topmouth gudgeon, a non-native invasive species of fish.	Previous monitoring suggests that there is a population of topmouth gudgeon in both Upper and Lower Lledi reservoirs at Swiss Valley. Preventing the spread of it is an important action that benefits all stakeholders. The reason that topmouth gudgeon control is crucial in UK freshwaters because this invasive fish species, native to Asia, poses significant threats to native ecosystems. It competes with native fish for food and can carry diseases and parasites that can harm native species. Additionally, topmouth gudgeon can disrupt the ecosystem by consuming invertebrates and fish eggs. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water, Natural Resources Wales, the council and Swiss Valley Angling Association have worked collectively to introduce a biological control method, which uses natural predators to manage pest populations. This is a natural control measure which restores an ecosystem balance and initial indicators show that this method appears to be working. Four phased stocking events have taken place between 2023 -2025 to introduce predatory species,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>

	specifically pike and perch. Three stocking phases were funded by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and one by NRW. A significant number of fish of varying maturity were introduced in each stocking event. NRW are undertaking an extensive monitoring programme. The initial signs are encouraging and indicating a reduction in the prevalence of the topmouth gudgeon at the Lower Lliedi. Furthermore, a joint venture between DWR Cymru Welsh Water and LRC will introduce a second equipment wash down station at the reservoir to support the cleaning of equipment to avoid transference of invasive species to and from other waterways.	
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#### Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objective 4: Tackling poverty and its impacts

Steps taken by Llanelli Rural Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective	How have the 5 Ways of Working been used to shape your activity? (Summary in Appendix A)	Which national Well-being Goals does this work support? (Summary in Appendix B)
Raising funds for the refurbishment and extension of the existing library in Llwynhendy and surrounding green space enhancement for community benefit.	<p>Following numerous community consultations and commissioning a feasibility study, the council has acted and is addressing the need for a community hub provision in Llwynhendy. After years of attempting to raise funds from a Public Works Loan Board, various grants and contributions from stakeholders, work began on the project towards the end of 2024. The community hub project building will be known as Canolfan Llwynhendy. The outside green space which will host new recreational spaces comprising play equipment, planting, landscaping, a multi-use game area and a BMX track will be known as Parc Y Gwili.</p> <p>The project has been part of a collaborative approach, that was initially led by council members and officers, who set up a steering group made up of officers from housing, leisure, community regeneration and libraries within Carmarthenshire County Council, local members and community volunteers.</p> <p>Recent stakeholder engagement and community consultation led by the council's officers will ensure the space is supported by services that will help with many local issues. The library service will be maintained whilst face-to-face housing tenant support will also be available from the local authority's housing department. The space will also cater for employment support and training. As well as youth provision for 11 up until 25 years old.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> </ul>



Time Credits programme	Working in partnership with Tempo to deliver volunteering opportunities in order to address local priorities in return for time credits. The time credit currency can be used to access both local and nationwide amenities in return for the volunteer's time. The time credits model from Tempo has changed to digital however the council continues to support the initiative via its Community Development Officer .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> </ul>
Supporting the local economy by being included on Carmarthenshire County Council's procurement framework	The council works on a sustainable footing and strives to ensure best value in all of its spending decisions and where appropriate it looks to support the local economy. Participating in the county council procurement framework supports this general aim.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• More equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> </ul>

### **Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Objective 5: Helping to create bilingual, safe and diverse communities**

<b>Steps taken by Llanelli Rural Council that contribute to the Well-being Objective</b>	<b>How have the 5 Ways of Working been used to shape your activity? (Summary in Appendix A)</b>	<b>Which national Well-being Goals does this work support? (Summary in Appendix B)</b>
Provision of meeting spaces: nine community halls / centres	<p>These facilities were in place long before the WFGAct and the way they are run embody the five ways of working. The halls / centres are run by local volunteers and provide a range of uses that impact positively on the well-being of people. The halls host services, classes and clubs such as keep fit, martial arts, knitting groups, historical societies, post offices, yoga, cafes, cylch meithrin, weight loss, birthday parties, NHS staff and more. The council supports the voluntary effort of running the buildings by carrying out essential maintenance, annual grants and covers the cost of insurance and rates. This model enables each hall committee to make a surplus which it can reinvest in the hall.</p> <p>To assist the community run Swiss Valley Community Centre, the council has worked with a new cohort of volunteers to trial a new hall management model. In doing so, a new hall events committee has been established, with their own constitution, to manage the booking diary and community events at the hall that reflects the needs of the community. The council's role is to carry out all back office functions, such as paying utility bills, charging hall patrons and maintaining the hall.</p> <p>The council's halls are well used and relied upon by our communities. These versatile community spaces host a variety of classes that give residents the opportunity to improve their well-being. The council recognises that not every community has a hall, and it can work with residents to explore options for new facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> </ul>

Community Development Officer (CDO) support	There is CDO support available for our communities. The support follows the principles set out in the five ways of working as well as the well-being objectives set out in the Council's Well-Being (Whole Place) Plan. The CDO also provides support to the Llanelli Rural community on matters that positively affect Carmarthenshire's well-being objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
Whole Place Plan delivery	The Whole Place Plan was developed in 2015. The Whole Place Plan is a 15 year well-being plan for the council. It was the Council's initial response to comply with the provisions of the WFG Act. The 5 ways of working and national well-being goals are referred to throughout the document. Future updates will link in with the PSB's Well-being Objectives for Carmarthenshire. 14 interventions are mentioned in the plan with many already actioned. The plan's delivery is now into its ninth year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosperous Wales</li> <li>• Resilient Wales</li> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• More Equal Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>
Safe Routes in Communities	<p>The Council has a strong recent track record of supporting its communities in order to benefit from Welsh Government Safe Routes in Communities funding. It has played an important role in recent years with successful bids for Hengoed, Pemberton, Swiss Valley and Glyn Wards. The process involves a collaborative approach between the community, local schools and the local authority. The council's Community Development Officer facilitated meetings at the early stages and also helps arrange community consultation exercises. The aims of the Safe Routes in Communities is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve and increase walking/cycling connections to schools and within the wider community.</li> <li>• Reduce car use by providing residents with viable alternatives.</li> <li>• Increase physical activity and fitness levels to improve health.</li> <li>• Improve road awareness, confidence and independence of young people on the school journey coupled with reducing congestion around schools.</li> </ul> <p>Five Roads in the Glyn Ward has been successful in the 2024/25 bidding round for Carmarthenshire and will benefit from investment in the next 12 months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthier Wales</li> <li>• Wales of Cohesive Communities</li> <li>• Globally Responsible Wales</li> </ul>

## Reflection and Looking Forward

An opportunity to reflect on how things are going and outline future priorities.

<p>What has worked well for the Council?</p>	<p>Reflecting the needs of the community in the new play areas installed at Clos Cilsaig, Parc y Gwili, Penygraig and Ponthenri Recreation Ground. The consultation work that went on before ensured that the installed equipment was received gratefully. In Penygraig this interaction ensured the council made extra spaces for car parking in the design, which was highlighted as something missing by residents when they attended a consultation exercise held inside the council chamber. That face to face contact helped build a relationship and garnered trust in the council's plans.</p> <p>Attracting funding from Welsh Government's Assets Collaboration Programme ensured the Canolfan Llwynhendy project could proceed. With the building due to open in the summer, there are high hopes for various well-being activities for all age groups in the new facility, and we look forward to providing an update on the project in the next annual report.</p> <p>The litter pick hub is well used and has received praise from Keep Wales Tidy officers for its efficiency and number of litter picks recorded.</p> <p>Biodiversity initiatives undertaken: Tree planting in cemetery grounds and at amenity areas in several parks, recreation grounds, growing space and the reservoir. Re-wilding areas, habitats, nest boxes created to attract pollinators, and improving biodiversity. Revised grounds maintenance regimes and amended working patterns reducing journeys, fuel consumption etc. and reducing carbon footprint.</p> <p>Swiss Valley Reservoir continues to enjoy frequent visitors. This is reflected in the visitor counters showing a 15% increase in visits over the last 12 months. Talks are underway with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to renew the community adoption agreement. The initial 5 year agreement is due to conclude at the end of 2025. The Friends of Swiss Valley Reservoir Group has made a promising start and hopes are high for good volunteer engagement over the next 12 months and more.</p>
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	<p>Apprenticeship programmes in Logistics and Transport have seen high demand from employers for apprenticeship places and individuals seeking a change of career by accessing Personal Learning Accounts (PLA) training to retrain as large vehicle or bus drivers.</p> <p>The Apprenticeship programme achieved 83% at Foundation Level, 77% overall for frameworks completions at all levels in Logistics occupational areas and Business Administration.</p> <p>Performance outcome for Personal Learning Accounts (PLA) training courses achieved 90% of leavers achieving a licence or vocational qualification, in addition a project funded by PLA to train Tata Steel employees at risk of redundancy saw outcomes reach 73% of employees gain a LGV or PCV licence in the year to March 2025.</p> <p>The Jobs Growth Wales+ programme achieved 58% overall in progressions to employment and/or further education.</p>
<p>What have been the barriers for the Council?</p>	<p>Slow turnaround of asset transfers.</p> <p>Available revenue grant funding to pay for staff. Whereas grant funding for capital works and environmental enhancements have been accessed in the last 12 months, the community and town council sector would benefit from funding to pay for staff to ensure these improvements meet their full potential.</p> <p>Commercial quality battery equipment to replace petrol and diesel machinery and equipment not sturdy enough yet.</p> <p>Delivering a sustainable training provision has been challenging in some areas following a downturn in the last two years in the Business Administration and Customer Service routes.</p> <p>On the Jobs Growth Wales + programme for 16 – 19 year olds, many have faced significant personal barriers in learning and progression in to further education and employment, the rise in additional learning needs and mental health issues has grown exponentially since the pandemic and learners are requiring additional support while on programme and staff have to work with and signpost a large number of learners to external agencies.</p>

<p>Are there any matters the PSB could support delivery/progress on?</p>	<p>To continue to take a pro-active interest in the work of the council and where appropriate to offer advice and sign posting to support council activities.</p>
<p>What are the Council's main priorities looking forward to 2025-26?</p>	<p>The council's plans for this year includes these specific plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to continue the development of new facilities at Swiss Valley Reservoir</li> <li>• to establish the "friends of Swiss Valley Reservoir" volunteer led group</li> <li>• to complete the drainage and landscaping works to the recreational area at Gwili Fields</li> <li>• to continue the development of the Canolfan Llwynhendy and open it to the public</li> <li>• to provide public toilets for match day use at Felinfoel Recreation Ground</li> <li>• to continue with the lease transfer of assets from Carmarthenshire County Council</li> <li>• to negotiate Section 106 funding for play and recreational facilities</li> <li>• to recruit a new member of staff to help manage council community facilities</li> </ul>

## Appendix A: 5 Ways of Working

<b>Long Term</b>
The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
<b>Prevention</b>
How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
<b>Integration</b>
Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
<b>Collaboration</b>
Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
<b>Involvement</b>
The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.



## Appendix B: National Well-being Goals

National Goal
<b>A Prosperous Wales:</b> An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the Global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately, and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.
<b>A Resilient Wales:</b> A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.
<b>A Healthier Wales:</b> A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood
<b>A More Equal Wales:</b> A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances
<b>A Wales of Cohesive Communities:</b> Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities
<b>A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language:</b> Where we have lots of opportunities to do different things and where lots of people can speak Welsh
<b>A Globally Responsible Wales:</b> Where we look after the Environment and think about other people around the World

## Annual Report – Part 2

### *Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6*

#### *The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2024/25*

##### **Introduction and Context:**

Llanelli Rural Council provides a range of services to the local community which have an impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.

The council provides thirteen community buildings providing community halls and sports changing facilities. It provides and maintains seven recreational parks where a range of sports such as rugby, football, bowls and cricket are regularly played.

The council also provides and maintains eighteen children's play areas and jointly owns a large cemetery facility – Llanelli District Cemetery.

The council has transferred a large community growing space from Carmarthenshire County Council and has entered a five year adoption agreement with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water for Swiss Valley Reservoir. The community adoption agreement is the first of its kind in Wales

The council maintains over fifty miles of public footpaths across its geographical area. The use of which reduces reliance of vehicles for essential journeys such as school runs and pedestrian access to shopping areas. The network of footpaths also provides access for recreational walks in rural areas.

The council provides community support via its dedicated Community Development Officer and awards grants for community projects in the council's area.

The council promotes principles of sustainability and biodiversity by pursuing sustainability goals and sustainable practices whenever possible.

The council has engaged with Carmarthenshire County Council and formed a partnership with Llanelli Town Council embarking on a community asset transfer programme to protect, secure and maintain sporting, leisure and children's play areas.

The council has declared a Climate Emergency and subsequently set up an Environment and Climate Emergency Steering Group as a response to the declaration. The terms of reference of the group are annotated below.

A review of the council's position in relation to IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reduction of target from 2°C to 1.5°C global temperature rise.

**The aim of the review:**

To review the council's position in relation to IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and recommend how the council can contribute towards this target in the short, medium and long term.

The Group will consider the potential changes and impacts of global warming across the council's administrative area.

The review will involve gathering information from its own activities in providing local services and consult with other resources such as government advisory bodies, websites, partner organisations, agencies and individuals.

Identify the key areas where the council can impact on the IPCC target whilst carrying out its service delivery functions (direct and indirect) and how the council can also encourage residents to make an impact on:

- a. Reducing carbon emissions
- b. Use energy more efficiently
- c. Switch to low carbon fuels
- d. Prepare for climate change

The recommendations of the group are reported to the council's Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

Stemming from this, an Environment and Climate change policy, strategy and action plan has been formulated and reported for further consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.



## Review of S6 duty

### What has worked well?

The creation of wildflower areas and tree and hedgerow planting across the council's facilities continues to be implemented. The initiative continues to work well, and it increasingly proves popular with the public in addition to raising public awareness of the importance of assisting biodiversity, for example, the "No Mow May" initiative. Several volunteer groups assist in the tending of these areas. In addition, there have been some cost savings through the reduction in mowing, i.e. less consumables, fuel, travelling, equipment maintenance etc.

The continued use of a natural burial area amongst mature pine trees has proved popular. Native species tree planting continues, and new native species hedgerows have been established.

Changes to grass cutting regimes in the cemetery has resulted in the emergence of an abundance of wild primroses that have been recognised as possibly one of the largest concentrations in Carmarthenshire.



Also noted are the appearance of swathes of wild daisy and pilosella.

A drastic reduction in the widespread use of herbicides has resulted in the re-establishment of grassed and native wildflower areas and has halted damaging ground erosion.



A previously unused area of land at the cemetery that was overwhelmed with bramble is now managed to encourage the establishment of a broader variety of habitats for plants, trees and wildlife.



Members of the public donate new trees to the cemetery. This has become extremely popular over the past 12 months. It is not only affordable but also increases the aesthetic of a previously unused corner of the cemetery.



A tree planting scheme involving a local school has seen excellent results and trees planted are now well established.



Selective herbicides are only used where necessary and the creation of wildlife areas in the grounds of council properties has proved very popular. New signage has been installed in many areas that provides information regarding how the areas are managed and the advantages for wildlife.

The work at the community gardens is complete and provides areas to support the growing of food, fruit trees, wildflowers. A small pond is planned to attract amphibians, insects and pollinators. The growing space is available for a small annual charge and is now into its third year of occupancy by the public, schools and community groups. Available are 16 raised beds and 3 accessible planters. The space utilises rainwater harvesting and small solar power lights, encouraging sustainability and biodiversity.

The project will provide education and awareness opportunities for ecology and biodiversity and encouraging people to grow fruit and vegetables.





The adoption project at the Lower Lleidi Reservoir has provided an abundance of opportunities to improve the ecology of the reservoir and its environs by developing and enhancing a broad range of biodiverse habitats. Surveys to examine the bat, dormouse and otter populations have been undertaken and a range of habitat boxes and shelters have been installed around the site. The dormice boxes have been monitored by registered ecologists and in July they recorded the presence of dormice onsite.





A suite of education and interpretation panels are installed around the site to provide visitors with information in regard to the variety of wildlife that can be seen.

Woodland and waterside habitats have been enhanced. The reed-bed areas of the reservoir are now protected by the introduction of an exclusion zone for watercraft that provides much needed protection for insects, amphibians and spawning fish. Biosecurity measures have been introduced to manage the spread of invasive species in the reservoir.

Education and awareness regarding the importance of protecting the ecology is paramount to the relationship between the reservoir users and the council.



A new angling booking system and access to water service provider have been established at the reservoir.

A woodland management plan has been created, and areas of woodland have been made more accessible to the public. Links to the cycle path network have been improved and new cycle racks installed, along with new benches and picnic tables made from recycled materials. Extensive repairs and improvements to footpaths have been undertaken across the site to encourage people to visit by foot and reduce vehicle use. The council is also awaiting the outcome of an application for the reservoir's woodlands to gain National Forest for Wales status.





Following recent storm damage, log piles created from felled trees and branches have created havens for insects, bees, mosses and fungi to thrive.

Furthermore, educational seated areas have been created for outdoor learning and well-being initiatives.





Following on from the installed new energy efficient shower water heating systems at its sports changing facilities in Dafen and Pwll, the council's facility in Felinfoel is under review for a similar refurbishment

The council has collaborated with Carmarthenshire County Council to convert all 290 of its footpath lighting columns to energy efficient LED lamps.

Whenever possible, across all council facilities the fluorescent, halogen and sodium lamps are replaced with energy efficient LED versions.

An electrical car was chosen to replace the chairman's previous car which is used regularly when the council chairman attends official functions and community events. The new plug in hybrid model can travel up to 32 miles on electric power alone. The electric motor also works intelligently with the petrol engine when needed to provide improved fuel economy and reduced CO2 emissions.

The biodiversity areas the council have identified has been increased. In Pwll we have doubled the area that has been left to grow naturally, thus increasing the potential for wild flower and pollinators. Through grant funding we have purchased a grass collection machine. By collecting the arisings from wild flower meadows prevents the build up of dead vegetation, which can smother delicate plants. There is more exposed ground to allow seeds to grow. The soil fertility is reduced, therefore slowing down the growth of nutrient-loving coarse grasses that choke wild flowers. This scheme has been extended over the past 12-18 months to cover other sites, including Pontyates, Ponthenri, Tir Eynon and Furnace.







### **What have the barriers been?**

Schedules and other council commitments.

Technology for battery powered tools and equipment is not yet sturdy enough for commercial environments. The range of equipment purported to be commercial is limited. The costs of replacing fossil fuel vehicles and equipment with electric versions is high. The council presently operates a significant fleet of vehicles and machinery that uses diesel and petrol fuels.

The public wish to see amenity areas “tidy”. An ‘educate and inform’ programme would help explain what the council’s initiatives are when introducing new maintenance regimes to reduce emissions or reduce the use of herbicides and when creating ‘pollinator’ areas, when the grasses are left to grow longer at certain times of the year, or when certain areas are purposely not cut.

### **What will you change?**

Seek to work more closely with Carmarthenshire County Council’s biodiversity officers and other agency partners to seek advice and guidance, benchmarking, attending seminars etc. Undertake more interaction with the public and provide more information on the council’s initiatives.

Identify more grassed areas where we can reduce cuts through the summer months to encourage pollinators and biodiversity. i.e. an initial cut in March/April and a second cut in September. Areas will be 'framed' with mowing patterns so it is clear that the longer grass is intentional and biodiversity information for the area will be displayed.

Increase the natural burial area offering in the cemetery. Publicise that ‘greener options’ are also available in the traditional areas also where the carbon footprint can be reduced.

Seek to increase native tree and hedgerow planting. Create wildlife corridors for small mammals and invertebrates.

Consider and reinforce the importance of climate change in everything we do.

Continue to seek to replace vehicles and equipment to consider battery or hybrid technologies wherever practical.

Consider more solar or wind energy. Seek to review utility energy suppliers to consider more sustainable alternatives.



**How and when will the s6 duty be monitored and the s6 plan reviewed?**

The duty will be monitored through the council's Environment and Climate Emergency Steering Group, that will report to the council on the success, or otherwise, of the actions taken through the usual management and statutory council reporting protocols.

The S6 plan will be reviewed in light of these reports and any other evidence or information that is made available to the council. At the time of this report's publication, there is no specific time or date set for the plan to be reviewed, but this will be done within the next six months.

## **Annual Report - Part 3**

### **Council Priorities, Activities and Achievements 2024-25**

Section 52 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, requires the council, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements over the previous year.

The council has adopted a Strategic Plan which sets out the council's strategic aims based on a clear statement of purpose and its core values. The Strategic Plan provides an overall framework to focus the council's activities, investment and spending priorities. These are set out in more detail in annual Service Plans, incorporating service objectives, key tasks, performance measures, and related targets.

Service Plans provide the basis for on-going performance review, to ensure the provision of high quality services, which meet the needs of local citizens and help focus the activities of members and officers on clear organisational goals and outputs.

The formulation of the Service Plans, play an integral part in the council's annual budget process.

The council's service plans and results for the financial year 2024-25 are presented below and set out the key tasks, objectives and service delivery achieved during the year.

## **SERVICE PLAN FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES 2024-25**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERVICE**

The Council's aims and objectives and a clear statement of our purpose and core values are set out in the Strategic Plan. In this context the aims of the service are: -

- To assist Council Managers to meet their strategic aims and objectives by providing administrative services to the Council.
- To enable the Council to respond and react to legislation introduced.
- To provide an effective reception point for the general public and other visitors to the Council's offices.
- To oversee and organise all matters which relate to the civic and ceremonial side of the Authority, such as the Chairman's events and other civic occasions.
- To inform the public of the Council's services and activities and to promote the corporate identity of the Council.
- To provide a range of support services to Councillors and Officers in order to assist in the decision making process.
- To provide and maintain suitable office accommodation, meeting and function rooms to meet the needs of the Council.
- To provide depots, vehicles, stores to the Council's DLO.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

The provision of wide ranging administrative and clerical support including word processing.

The provision of a photocopying service.

The provision and maintenance of the Council's telecommunication service.

The organisation of all civic events which include the Annual Meeting, Civic Service and other functions throughout the year.

The organisation of all the Chairman's events and engagements and the provision of secretarial, attendants and chauffeur services for the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The promotion of the corporate image of the Council.

The servicing of the Council and its Committees by preparing agendas, minutes, reports and providing a comprehensive timetable of meetings.

The provision of advice to Members on Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, pecuniary interests and other matters.

The production and provision to all Members of a year book and diary.

To ensure the Council's main office building is kept in a reasonable state of repair.

To provide the heating, lighting, cleaning and security of the building.

To manage on behalf of the DLO the Council's two depots, vehicle fleet and stores operation.

To maintain an efficient accounting system including preparation and monitoring of annual budgets.

To maintain an efficient and effective creditor payments service by maintaining financial records and reconciling accounts.

To maintain a debtors accounting system and process payments promptly and accurately.

To maintain accurate VAT, PAYE and payroll records and to administer the Council's payroll system by processing salaries and wages payments for Council employees.

To manage the investments, loans portfolio and cash flows of the Council so as to maximise interest receipts and minimise interest payments and bank charges.

To control, monitor and update the Council's website.

To manage the service level agreement with Llanelli Town Council for the maintenance of its open spaces.



## KEY TASKS/SERVICE DELIVERY IN 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET £	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOMES
People Management AS/1/24		Investors in People Phased delivery of action plan	Action plan ongoing. Employee representative groups functioning. Renewal due December 2025.
Registration AS/2/24	10,000	Register unregistered and incorrectly registered land and property with the Land Registry.	Delays with Land Registry.
Administrative Building AS/3/24	5,400	Replace internal fire doors.	Not completed. Quotes received.
Civic Capital AS/4/24	2,000	Refurbish Past Chairman's Honours Board.	Material samples received. Awaiting design proofs.
Governance AS/5/24		Employment law and health and safety digital platforms.  On-board all employees and utilise system as standard repository and management tool for personnel, training, health & safety, incident reporting.  Review of Council Policies.  Staff resource, capacity and business continuity.	New digital platforms in use. Further staff training and resource required.  New digital platforms in use. Further staff training and resource required. File management policy required.  Initial review undertaken. Policy updates ongoing.  Partial resource provided.

## PERFORMANCE

INDICATOR MEASURE	TARGET 2024/25	RESULTS 2024/25
The number of staff working days lost to sickness absence.	260	530 (279 short term< 28 days) (251 long term> 28days )  Total employees 48 No. employees taking sick leave 30  No. employees with more than one occurrence of sickness 21  No. of employees taking long term sick leave 4
Percentage of Councillors at full Council meetings.	80%	75%
Percentage of Councillors attending at Standing Committees/ Working Group Meetings.	80%	72%
Percentage of Agendas sent out within three clear working days of meetings.	100%	100%
Number of members of the public attending Council/Committee meetings.	3	0
Percentage of invoices paid within 30 days or within creditor terms.	97%	99%
Number of recommended corrections/improvements made by external auditors.	0	1

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET
General Administration	53,215
Administrative Building	108,493
Depots	25,785
Civic Activities	63,092
Vehicles and Machinery	52,760
Personnel	635,439
Capital Equipment	10,950
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>949,734</b>

## **SERVICE PLAN FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES 2024-25**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERVICE**

The Council's aims and objectives and a clear statement of our purpose and core values are set out in the Strategic Plan. In this context the aims of the service are: -

- To promote the use of community facilities by community groups and members of the public.
- To assist the alleviation of poverty and disadvantage and otherwise assist with the development of the local community.
- To encourage health and well-being amongst the community and support in community activities and events.
- To provide financial assistance to local organisations to help further the Council's aims.
- To promote local government and the Council's civic role in the local community by working closely with schools and colleges.
- The promotion of civic pride throughout the community.
- To encourage joint partnership agreements with local authorities, the private sector and voluntary organisations.
- To act as a local voice for the community served by the Council and to diligently perform our consultative role with both the public and private sectors.
- To facilitate on behalf of the community the delivery of the Llanelli Rural Area Whole Place Plan 2015-2030.

## **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

The provision of nine community halls for a wide range of community events and activities. Hall management committees have been established to run the day to day management and administration of the halls on a voluntary basis. The Council's halls are located throughout the administrative area.

Provision of a growing space for horticultural activities.

Assistance is given to school work placements for pupils interested in local government administration.

To co-ordinate (in partnership with Tempo) a Time Credits Programme in order to generate new community activities.

The Council maintains two War Memorials within its administrative area.

The Council administers the burial service provided at Llanelli District Cemetery.

To consider all matters requiring consultation with the Council through its committee system.

Providing grants to community halls and to organisations that use the buildings, e.g. Brownies, martial arts, senior citizens groups etc.

Surveys undertaken of community facilities during annual inspections.

In addition to the above, the Council makes grants to local groups and charitable organisations to help further their aims and to support community development.



## KEY TASKS/SERVICE DELIVERY IN 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET £	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOMES
Community Development CS/1/24	Nil	Produce an updated version of the Whole Place Plan. Preparation, artwork & print.	On-going. This has not been possible and has been included as one of the key tasks for 2025/26
Community Development CS/2/24	200,000	Llwynhendy Library. 1. Support the Recreation and Welfare subcommittee meet the recommendations set out in the feasibility study to provide a community hub  2. Submit applications for capital funding during the year	1. Completed.  2. All funds required for the project have been raised. Building contractors started in November 2024. Welsh Government grant fully claimed in March 2025 for phase 1 building works.
Community Development CS/3/24	17,670	Dwyfor Growing Space.  Support the growing space users establish a constituted group to further develop the growing space	On-going. Efforts have been made to form a formal group. This interaction has resulted in a new terms of reference and growing space users are working better together. Constituted group is still an aspiration.
Community Development CS/4/24	1,000	Coordinate a Keep Wales Tidy Litter Pick Hub. Make litter picking kits available free to hire for the community to carry out their own clean ups.	16 community litter picks supported  221 bags of litter collected by 188 volunteers
Community Development CS/5/24	Nil	Swiss Valley Reservoir. Establish a “friends of SVR” group in order to improve well-being, create volunteering opportunities and tackle issues / actions highlighted in the site management plan	3 meetings held so far. 2 of these have been group litter picks of the reservoir. 43 volunteers have turned up to meetings and more are registered on the mailing list.

Community Development CS/6/24	Nil	Implement alternative management models for identified council owned community facilities because of the lack of a sustainable volunteer base.	On-going. Consultations made with hall management committee representatives of every community hall. Legal advice on charity law has been sought. A report of recommended actions will be going to members for their consideration in Spring 2025.
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## PERFORMANCE

INDICATOR MEASURE	TARGET 2024/25	RESULTS 2024/25
Percentage of planning applications considered within the 21 day consultation period set by Carmarthenshire County Council	100%	100%
Number of individuals into volunteering	100	231
Number of volunteer hours	750	306

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET
Financial Assistance	13,000
Community Halls	169,686
Community Development	30,000
Capital Scheme – community halls	202,675
Local initiatives	7,000
Burial Services	100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>522,361</b>

## **SERVICE PLAN FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES 2024-25**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERVICE**

The Council's aims and objectives and a clear statement of our purpose and core values are set out in the Strategic Plan. In this context the aims of the service are: -

- To promote recreational and leisure facilities in the community.
- To encourage health and well being and generally improve the quality of life of members of the public by encouraging people to develop their participation in recreational activities and events.
- To encourage social inclusion by ensuring that play equipment is accessible to all.
- To involve the community in the development of the Council's recreational facilities.
- To preserve and protect public rights of way.
- To sustain the level of provision of street furniture throughout the Council's area, such as bus shelters, wayside seats and footway lighting.
- The marketing and promotion of Llanelli and district.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

The provision and maintenance of recreation grounds at Dafen, Felinfoel, Five Roads, Ponthenri, Pwll and Trallwm. In addition, ground maintenance is also provided to the playing fields at Pontyates which is not Council owned.

The provision and maintenance of a number of play areas throughout the Council's area.

Maintenance and improvement to the public rights of way network.

Maintenance and improvements to Swiss Valley Reservoir.

The funding and promotion of the Christmas lights and Christmas carnival in Llanelli.

The provision of footway lighting, bus shelters and wayside seats.

The annual inspection of equipment within children's play areas to British Standards BSEN 1176-2008, BS 8409 2009.

The maintenance of Llanelli Town Council's open spaces under a service level agreement.

## KEY TASKS/SERVICE DELIVERY IN 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET £	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOMES
Safeguarding Sporting and Children's Play Facilities RL/1/24		Legal process for lease transfer of assets from Carmarthenshire County Council. 1. Yspitty play area 2. Dafen Park 3. Pwll Park 4. Trallwm Football pitch 5. Trallwm play area	1,2,3: Lease transfers still with Carmarthenshire County Council.  4,5: Asset transfer documents with Council's solicitor.
Community Facilities RL/2/24	3,500	Felinfoel Recreation Ground  Fence and gate recreation ground boundary	Completed July 2024
Community Facilities RL/3/24	100,000	Ponthenri, play area and recreation ground Local Places for Nature grant scheme.  1. Install Play Equipment.  2. Local Places For Nature grant scheme.	1. Completed August 2024  2. Completed March 2024
Community Facilities RL/4/24	75,000	Penygraig play area –  1. Planning permission 2. Drainage scheme approval. 3. Issue purchase order 4. Install equipment 5. Install ball court	Completed February 2025



<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>BUDGET £</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>OUTCOMES</b>
Community Facilities RL/5/24	75,000	Dafen,Cilsaig play area –  1. Planning permission 2. Drainage scheme approval. 3. Issue purchase order 4. Install equipment	Completed February 2025
Community Facilities RL/6/24		Swiss Valley Reservoir – deliver objectives included in the Site Management Plan, e.g. provision of toilet and changing facilities, pontoon, water sports, managed fishery, fish stocking, improve car parks, visitor facility, footpaths, improve biodiversity, access to woodland etc.	Toilet and changing facilities, pontoon, water sports, managed fishery, fish stocking and improved car parks completed.  Works to improve biodiversity, footpaths and access to woodland continuing.
Community Facilities RL/7/24	30,000	Furnace Community Hall – Replace terrace balustrade, repair/replace terrace decking and structure.	Ongoing, completion expected completion June 2025.
Community Footpaths RL/8/24	200,000	Llwynhendy, Gwili Fields  1. Community Hub  2. Play area and landscaping project.	Ongoing: Community hub redevelopment and play area and landscaping works underway.  Ongoing dialogue with CCC planning on Phase 2 of external works. Play areas partially completed June 2025

Community Footpaths RL/9/24	8,750	Refurbish solar thermal systems at the following facilities: 1. Five Roads Community Hall. 2. Phil Bennett Community Resource Centre. 3. Furnace Community Hall.	Purchase orders issued, awaiting contractor start dates.
Community Development RL/10/24	6,500	Clos y Gelli Childrens Play Area- replace multiplay unit	Replacement Multiplay unit received. Awaiting resource availability to install.

## PERFORMANCE

INDICATOR MEASURE	TARGET 2024/25	RESULTS 2024/25
Number of cuts to public footpaths.	286	198
Net revenue expenditure per head of parks and play areas.	£10.32	£10.93
Number of facilities identified as high risk within ROSPA report.	0	0
Number of play areas providing facilities for all age groups.	19	17

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2023-24

ACTIVITY	BUDGET
Recreation Grounds	91,228
Play Areas	33,705
Rights of Way	100
Capital Scheme – footway lighting	1,950
Swiss Valley Reservoir	3,900
Tourism & Cultural Activities	25,673
Open Spaces (Bynea & Swiss Valley)	7,920
Capital Schemes – Play Areas	356,000
Asset transfer – legal fees	7,000
Grounds Maintenance – Service Level Agreement	92,190
Capital Schemes – Recreation Grounds	11,980
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>631,646</b>

## **SERVICE PLAN FOR TRAINING SERVICES 2024-25**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SERVICE**

The Council's aims and objectives and a clear statement of our purpose and core values are set out in the Strategic Plan. In this context the aims of the service are: -

- To secure and deliver Welsh Government funded 'Work Based Learning' contracts as part of the Skills Academy Wales Consortium, achieving good to excellent results in relation to compliance, performance and quality benchmarks.
- To contribute towards the management and development of Skills Academy Wales consortia
- To secure a viable subcontract with prime providers delivering the Job's Growth Wales + programme.
- To meet all the programme requirements and key performance indicators as stipulated by the JGW+ specification.
- To respond positively to Welsh Government priorities for Post 16 Education and Training in Wales. Currently these include Carbon Literacy, Welsh Language and Culture, Literacy & Numeracy, Safeguarding, Wellbeing, Data Security and Equality, Inclusion and Diversity.
- To deliver high quality teaching, training and assessment and provide a range of appropriate, relevant and motivating learning programmes.
- To undertake a rigorous, Self-Evaluation process annually, and to continually plan for improvement. To use a variety of methods to capture the opinion of our learners, employers and partners.
- To involve the department wherever possible in partnership working within Skills Academy Wales, Local Initiatives, 14-19 Network delivery, Regional Learning Partnerships, Skills Sector Councils, Community Learning, DWP Delivery etc.
- To maintain an independent financially viable status for the Training Department.

## DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

To provide Training Services within Welsh Government funded programmes.

The Training Department is a partner within the Skills Academy Wales (SAW) consortia led by Neath Port Talbot College Group.

LRC Training is partner/subcontractor to ITEC Skills and Training Ltd and delivery partner to Coleg Sir Gar.

LRC Training delivers the following Work Based Learning Programmes:

APPRENTICESHIPS	Employed	All ages
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JOBS GROWTH WALES +	Unemployed	16-18 years
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To respond to all Welsh Government priorities for post 16 education and training in Wales.

To liaise on a daily/weekly basis with Referral Agencies e.g. Job Centre Plus, Careers Wales

To initially assess learners' needs and produce a suitable Individual Learning Plan.

To undertake basic skills assessments of all clients on Work Based Learning programmes.

To create and maintain an electronic Lifelong Learning Wales Record (LLWR) for every learner.

To collate evidence to support monthly Claims Procedure prepared by SAW.

To prepare monthly financial information for Council.

To risk assess the suitability of employers for involvement in learning activities.

To assist companies with recruitment of qualified employees.

To produce an annual Self Evaluation Report (SER) and Quality Improvement Plan (QUIP)

To undertake annual audits of all procedures and meet WG compliance guidance in relation to funded programmes.

To ensure all activities fulfil WG and lead organisation priorities in relation to the Quality agenda.

To be represented on all Management Groups and focus groups established by lead providers.



## KEY TASKS/SERVICE DELIVERY IN 2024-25

ACTIVITY	BUDGET £	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOMES
To increase occupancy on JGW+ and achieve contract value.	£0	Start and Occupancy levels monitored monthly in line with profiles. Maintain ITEC occupancy and increase CSG numbers to achieve viable learner occupancy.	<p>ITEC – recruited 60 starts, exceeding start profile and achieving average occupancy of 49 learners. This was a very successful year achieving an increase of £20,000 in contract value for over performance. Contract Value for ITEC £535,775, given additional value which we achieved to end the year on £554,724.</p> <p>Coleg Sir Gar contract in the first full year achieving 19 starts, increasing numbers in the last quarter, average occupancy 14. CSG contract achieved £72,200 to March 2025</p>
To meet Apprenticeship recruitment targets.	£0	Monthly meetings with SAW to manage profiles to achieve viable contract.	<p>88 apprentices recruited from April 2024 to March 2025. Targets are monitored robustly to achieve contract value. Monitoring meetings are held monthly with SAW to ensure recruitment and financial profile are met. Financial profile is increasing and being met as of 31 March 2025.</p>

To deliver the PLA Tata Steel project by training 50-60 drivers through LGV/PCV licences.	£0	Initial Contract for £120,000 allocated, due to demand for the licences, increase of £54,000 (Total £174K) allocated to support Tata Steel employees at risk of redundancy to retrain through Personal Learning Accounts.	61 TATA Steel employees registered on the course. The contract value increased to a total of £175,042. 29 learners completed the course to gain a LGV or PCV licence by 31 March 2025.
Meet key performance indicators in all programmes and routes.	£0	Monthly review of all performance to be undertaken through review with lead organisations.	Programme performance indicators for ITEC are 58% of leavers progressing into employment or further learning. CSG performance is affected by a low number of learners in 2024/25 due to the contract in its infancy 52%. Apprenticeship Framework Success rates achieved are Foundation Apprenticeships 83%, Apprenticeship 64%, and Higher Apprenticeships 67%.
Timely progression opportunities for JGW+ learners.	£0	Develop progression opportunities to employment, apprenticeships and higher learning.	Staff have worked incredibly hard to source suitable opportunities for the learners whilst considering their personal situations and supporting them to overcome barriers to employment. JGW+ staff are working closer with the apprenticeship team to identify foundation apprenticeship opportunities with employers in the logistics sector.
Develop vocational qualifications for JGW+ learners.	£0	Develop vocational qualifications and work collaboratively with the apprenticeship team to develop qualifications in Logistics sector, including a Level 1 Introduction to Warehousing & Logistics.	JGW+ and Apprenticeship team worked collaboratively to deliver an in-house warehousing qualification. 5 learners achieved the Level 1 Certificate in an Introduction to Warehousing.

To relocate Training Centre to new premises in Carmarthen.		Fulfil commitment to reduce expenditure to ensure JGW+ is viable by vacating Peniel Street premises and relocating the service to Ty Myrddin.	The move to new premises was completed in September 2024. Achieved a saving of £16,983 on the previous year centre costs.
To secure PLA funding from August 2024.	£0	To secure funding for the academic year August 2024 – July 2025 for LGV and PCV licences.	An initial contract offer of £155,000, this was increased to £175,000. Recruitment targets have been met; 50 learners have enrolled on course.
Explore and tender for funding for suitable educational funding streams.	£0	Explore opportunities for securing funding for the Skills and Talent Project and Multiply Project.	The multiply project ended in December 2024 and the funding was not viable for the resource and timeframe required. We continue to work with Neath Port Talbot College to access FE funding for Business Administration delivery for any individual ineligible for an apprenticeship, 2 learners enrolled on the course in 2024/25.

## PERFORMANCE

INDICATOR MEASURE	PER 100 LEAVERS			
	YEAR TARGET	YEAR ACTUAL	½ YEAR TARGET	½ YEAR ACTUAL
	MARCH 2025	MARCH 2025	SEPT 24	SEPT 24
Recruit JGW+ Learners	65	79	33	31
JGW+ Progressions	70%	58%	70%	65.4%
PLA Completion	80%	90%	80%	86%
Apprenticeship Completion Rates	80%*	77%	80%	79%

\* Apprenticeship completion rates are to the academic year-end - July